

[3 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3	4
3.	Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of Other Backward Classes	55.47	47.97
4.	Scheme of grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations working for Scheduled Castes	297.00	309.00
5.	Scheme of Coaching and Allied assistance for weaker section including SC,OBC and Minority	15.93	Nil

Exploitation of dalits

†3005. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a panel of United Nations in March, 2007, has expressed deep concern over the rising incidents of violence against dalit women, cases of their sexual exploitation, trafficking and forceful prostitution;

(b) whether in the meeting of Racial Discrimination Abolition Committee which concluded in March, 2007 in Geneva, the Committee urged Government that special courts and task force should be constituted to deal with such type of menace and also suggested to take disciplinary and criminal action against the police and other officers who do not fulfil their duties to protect these women;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to prevent the harassment of dalits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) After considering India's periodic report in February 2007, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had *inter alia* urged the Government of India for providing members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes protection against acts of discrimination and violence; training for police and judicial officers concerned on the application of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989; disciplinary action against law enforcement officers failing in their duties; providing affected members access to effective remedies, protecting them from retaliation and for making provision for compensation and rehabilitation.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) For ensuring early prosecution of cases under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, 137 exclusive Special Courts have already been set up in different States and Courts of Sessions have been notified as Special Courts.

Suitable advisories are issued to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations: Besides, assistance is provided for awareness generation, strengthening the administrative, enforcement and judicial machinery, etc.

Welfare of disabled

†3006. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when was the 'Nishakt Jan Swawlamban Protsahan Yojana' implemented in the country;

(b) the number of persons selected from each State in 2005-06 and 2006-07 under the said scheme;

(c) the names of disabled persons of Chhattisgarh selected under the scheme; and

(d) the details of financial assistance provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) No such scheme is under operation.

Economic and educational development of SC/ST/OBC

3007. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names/details of schemes for educational and economic development and employment opportunities to SC/ST/OBC;

(b) what has been their contribution/achievement in the country in general and Rajasthan, in particular; and

(c) the break-up of the fellowships awarded to SC/ST/OBC students pursuing higher studies (M.Phil/Ph.D) during last three years in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):

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